

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1-35. (Cancelled)

36. (New) A protective wire net comprising:

an array of longitudinally-extending wires arranged in side-by-side relation with one another, adjacent pairs of said wires being intertwined with one another at intertwining regions defined by portions of the respective said wires which are twisted around one another; and

a longitudinally-extending metal cable having a portion around which one of said wires disposed adjacent said metal cable is twisted, said metal cable being interposed between two of said wires in said array.

37. (New) The protective wire net of Claim 36, further comprising a plurality of said longitudinally-extending metal cables arranged at regular intervals with one another across said array and in an alternating manner with one or more of said wires.

38. (New) The protective wire net of Claim 36, further comprising an additional longitudinally-extending metal cable having a portion around which one of said wires disposed adjacent said additional metal cable is twisted, said additional metal cable defining a terminal longitudinally-extending edge of said protective wire net.

39. (New) The protective wire net of Claim 36, wherein said portions of the respective said wires which define said intertwining regions are doubly-twisted around one another, said array and said intertwining regions being disposed to define hexagonal shapes throughout said array such that said protective wire net comprises a double-twist net with hexagonal meshes.

40. (New) The protective wire net of Claim 36, wherein said metal cable is interposed between said one wire and another of said wires disposed immediately adjacent said one wire, said metal cable having a plurality of said portions around which said one wire is twisted and said portions are first portions of said metal cable, said metal cable having a plurality of second portions around which said another wire is twisted, said first and second portions of said metal cable alternating with one another as said metal cable extends longitudinally along said array.

41. (New) The protective wire net of Claim 36, wherein said metal cable is a first metal cable and said protective wire net further comprises a second metal cable or wire extending in a direction transverse to said longitudinally-extending wires and being disposed longitudinally between two longitudinally-adjacent intertwining regions of each adjacent pair of said wires.

42. (New) A protective wire net comprising:
an array of longitudinally-extending wires arranged in side-by-side relation with one another, adjacent pairs of said wires being intertwined with one another at intertwining regions defined by portions of the respective said wires which are twisted around one another; and

a longitudinally-extending metal cable interposed between two of said wires in said array disposed adjacent one another, said metal cable having a first portion around which a first of said two wires is twisted and a second portion around which a second of said two wires is twisted.

43. (New) The protective wire net of Claim 42, further comprising an additional longitudinally-extending metal cable having a portion around which one of said wires disposed adjacent said additional metal cable is twisted, said additional metal cable defining a terminal longitudinally-extending edge of said protective wire net.

44. (New) The protective wire net of Claim 42, wherein said metal cable has a plurality of said first portions around which said first wire is twisted and a plurality of said second portions around which said second wire is twisted, said first and second portions of said metal cable alternating with one another as said metal cable extends longitudinally along said array.

45. (New) The protective wire net of Claim 42, wherein said metal cable is a first metal cable and said protective wire net further comprises a second metal cable or wire extending in a direction transverse to said longitudinally-extending wires and being disposed between two longitudinally-adjacent intertwining regions of each adjacent pair of said wires and longitudinally between said first and second portions of said first metal cable.

46. (New) A protective wire net comprising:
an array of longitudinally-extending wires arranged in side-by-side relation with one another, adjacent pairs of said wires being intertwined with one another at intertwining

regions defined by portions of the respective said wires which are twisted around one another; and

a metal cable or wire extending in a direction transverse to said array of longitudinally-extending wires and being disposed longitudinally between two longitudinally-adjacent intertwining regions of each adjacent pair of said wires, said metal cable or wire being intertwined with said wires as said metal cable or wire extends transversely across said array.

47. (New) The protective wire net of Claim 46, wherein said metal cable or wire is a first metal cable and said protective wire net further comprises a longitudinally-extending second metal cable having a portion around which one of said wires disposed adjacent said second metal cable is twisted, said first metal cable being a bent portion of said second metal cable.

48. (New) The protective wire net of Claim 46, wherein said metal cable or wire has terminal ends and a ring-shaped anchor is disposed on each said terminal end of said metal cable or wire, one of said wires extending through each said anchor.

49. (New) The protective wire net of Claim 46, further comprising means for fixing said protective wire net to a slope.